IV. REMARKS

1. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of the allowance of claims 1-14, 18, 19, 30-35 and 38-49.

2. Claims 15, 36 and 42-45 are amended to address the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejections. Claims 36 and 37 should now be allowable as noted by the Examiner.

3. Claims 15-16, 20-23, 27, 29 and 50 are not anticipated by McCormick et al. ("McCormick") (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,709) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In Applicant's invention according to Claim 15, the terminal does not receive the "electronic information" until after the "filtering parameter" is received and checked. In McCormick, an e-mail message is received. The e-mail address of this e-mail message is then checked against a list. If the e-mail address is on the list the e-mail message will be "discarded". (Col. 2, lines 50-57). In Applicant's invention, the terminal receives the filtering parameter related to the electronic information "to be received". On the basis of the filtering parameter, the "receiving" of the electronic information is allowed or prevented. Thus, at least one of the differences here between Applicant's invention and McCormick is that in McCormick, the e-mail message is received and then the e-mail address associated with the e-mail message is checked. In Applicant's invention the filtering parameter is received and checked. Then the electronic information is allowed or prevented. Nowhere in McCormick is it disclosed or suggested that the e-mail address of the e-mail message is required and checked first and then, on the basis of the e-mail address, it is determined whether or not to prevent or

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allow the receipt of the e-mail message. McCormick only "discards" the e-mail message, which clearly indicates that the e-mail message ("information") must have already been received.

Claim 15 recites a "terminal" comprising means for establishing a "telecommunication" connection and for receiving electronic information and that the terminal first receives the filtering parameter and automatically allows or prevents the receiving of the electronic information based on the filtering parameter. The terminal does not receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection when the reception is prevented. On page 3 of the Final Office Action, the e-mail addresses are alleged to constitute a claimed filtering parameter. However, McCormick does not disclose sending the e-mail addresses first and after that, if the terminal allows, the actual messages. Instead, column 4, lines 25 to 27 disclose that any "comparison between any incoming e-mail and the current filter list could be accomplished within the user's computer system." This represents so-called Client Slide Filtering (CSF), where the client decides what to do with the message after its reception.

McCormick is mainly concentrated on a Server Side Filtering (SSF), where a server filters out or rejects spam messages. The SSF can use client based "No Admittance List" or "Guest List" definitions in deciding whether a given e-mail message should or should not be passed on to its addressee. This again, however, is far detached from the claimed invention that checks a filtering parameter and then decides whether to allow or prevent reception of the information.

All the rejected claims have a terminal related restriction that clearly distinguishes each claim from McCormick. For example, claim 20 states that the filtering parameter is intended to

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automatically allow the terminal either to prevent or allow the receiving of the electronic information over the telecommunication connection. Preventing receipt of this e-mail message is not possible if the e-mail as a whole (address and message) is delivered to the terminal for local filtering. The same is true when terminals send No admittance lists to the server and subsequently the server, not terminals, decides whether the information is sent or not over the connection.

McCormick clearly teaches that the entire e-mail is received prior to any filtering or checking. Col. 4, lines 17-53 of McCormick teaches that the user constructs an automatic discard filter 12. (Col. 4, lines 17-18). The automatic discard filter 12 includes a current filter list that comprises a list of active e-mail addresses against which incoming emails are compared. (Col. 4, lines 21-24). This is not the same as Applicant's invention where the "electronic information" is <u>not received</u> in the terminal until <u>after</u>, the information is allowed on the basis of the parameter.

In McCormick, the e-mail message is received and then the e-mail address of the received message is compared to the list. This is not the same as Applicant's invention where the terminal receives the filtering parameter that "is <u>related</u> to the electronic information <u>'to be received'</u>". Then, as recited in claim 15, the actual <u>receipt</u> of the electronic information is allowed or prevented on the basis of the filtering parameter. Thus, Applicant's invention is different from McCormick and the features recited in claims 15 and 20 are not disclosed or suggested.

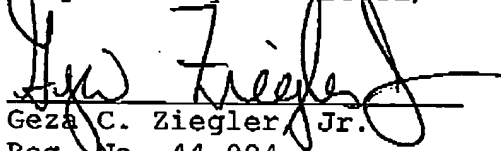Therefore, claims 15-16, 20-23, 27, 29 and 50 are not anticipated and should be allowable.

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4. Claims 17 and 28 are not unpatentable over McCormick under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 17 and 28 should be allowable at least by reason of their respective dependencies and the reasons stated above.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, a telephone interview is requested with the Examiner to discuss the issues.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004

Date: 25 MARCH 2005

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800 Ext. 134
Customer No.: 2512

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